

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

Only 17 more days till Christmas.

Congress reconvened yesterday at noon.

Yesterday was the seventh anniversary of the night rider raid of Dec. 6-7, 1907.

Premier Cassandra says Italy wants to remain neutral, but is ready for anything that may happen.

Mrs. Lewis Dixon rolled on her 3-months-old son in her sleep at Winchester and killed the child.

During the last week of November Sheriff Jewell Smith collected \$70,000 of state and county taxes.

Madison Cawein, the Kentucky poet, suffered a stroke of apoplexy in his apartments in Louisville Friday.

Two thousand tons of food for the Belgians was sent from New York Friday on a vessel sailing for Rotterdam.

Now and then you hear of a modern miracle. An auto turned turtle at Frankfort with seven people in it and nobody was hurt.

The Roman Catholic Church will fight the Arizona Prohibition law because it would bar the use of wine for sacramental purposes.

The Glasgow Times announces that it will adopt a rigid cash system, the only one that will keep a newspaper's circulation on a business basis.

Col. Charles Alexander, a millionaire capitalist, has been arrested in Providence on an indictment returned in Chicago for white slavery.

Signor Perugini, a widely known singer and actor, at one time a husband of Lillian Russell, for a period of four months, died in Philadelphia, Friday.

The American Minister in Peking has been ordered to confer with the Russian Minister in regard to the condition of Germans in Siberian detention camps.

Henderson's new salary ordinance was defeated because it received only 7 votes and 8 votes are necessary to pass salary or license ordinances in third class cities.

Carleton Hudson, wealthy Chicago lawyer, has admitted that he is Carleton H. Betts, wanted in New York on an indictment returned in 1894, charging forgery.

Katherine Winters, missing for two years from Newcastle, Ind., is again reported found, this time at Madisonville. Winters will be easy to find from now until Spring.

Benjamin T. Blewett, aged 94, a former president of Bethel College, at Russellville, Ky., died in St. Louis, Friday. His son of the same name is superintendent of the St. Louis public schools.

Former Lieut. Gov. M. C. Alford, lawyer, promoter, politician and one of the best-known men in Central Kentucky, was taken to a Lexington hospital Friday evening and his condition is said to be serious.

The first installment of "The Master Key," the serial to run for the next fifteen weeks, appears today. Another installment will appear Thursday and thereafter once a week on Thursdays, keeping pace with the presentations at the Rex Theatre on Saturdays.

Burnside men have organized a night school for men who are over the school age and have no education. Thirty-five men were present the first night, their ages ranging from twenty to forty-five years. The school will be in session two hours each night, five nights during the week. Great enthusiasm is being shown, and it is expected there will be sixty or more enrolled by the end of the week.

RUMANIA READY TO ENTER WAR

Decision To Assist Allies Arrived At, But May Wait Till Spring.

VARYING SUCCESSES IN WEST.

Report That French Have Cut German Communications In Vicinity of Metz.

Geneva, Dec. 7.—The Journal de Geneve publishes a dispatch from Bucharest saying Rumania has definitely decided to enter the war on the side of the allies. This decision, according to the dispatch, is in accordance with the wish of the entire country, including King Ferdinand and all the Rumanian statesmen, except the minister of finance, M. Marghileman.

The question of when Rumania will make her entry into the conflict is still being discussed, however, one side desiring to avoid a winter campaign; but the military authorities express the fear that Serbia may be defeated before spring.

The attitude of Bulgaria remains doubtful. Greece, Serbia and Rumania have proffered certain concessions which, however, Sofia seems not to consider a sufficient inducement.

Germans Claim Lodz.

Berlin, Dec. 7.—It is officially announced that the Germans occupied Lodz Sunday.

Lodz, a city of some 150,000 population, is the chief manufacturing center of Russian Poland. It has numerous textile mills, the majority of them for the manufacture of cotton goods. In addition it has flour mills, dyeing establishments, brick yards, machinery plants and breweries. The population is made up of Poles, Germans and Jews.

Fighting In Storms.

London, Dec. 7.—Battles for possession of Lodz and railroad leading through Northern Poland to Warsaw continue without abatement, but the reticence of German and Russian headquarters staffs and the meagreness of telegraphic communication, which is interrupted by storms, prevent a clear view of the progress of the fighting.

The German official report dismisses the struggle in a single sentence—"the battles of Lodz are developing according to our expectations"—while the last Russian report sent from Petrograd Friday, simply recorded that fighting was in progress.

From unofficial sources, however, it is gathered that on Thursday last the Germans, having failed to pierce the Russian center, commenced, with the aid of reinforcements, another attempt to envelop the Russians on both flanks. This is indicated by the fact that there is fighting near Ilow, north of Lodz, and at Piotrkow, to the south. Both places are in advance of the positions at which the Germans previously have been reported in their second invasion of Poland, and like Lodz, they are on the main roads to the Polish capital.

There is no news from South Poland beyond a German denial of a reported Russian success at Czenstochowa.

The capture of an advance position at Przemyśl is regarded as conferring a valuable advantage to the Russians in their attack on the fortress. Leaving this city to the attentions of the besieging armies, the Russians are pushing in small bodies steadily across the plains of Hungary and fugitives are said to be pouring toward Budapest.

In the face of the Austrian advance in Serbia there has been talk of the removal of the capital from Nish to Mitrovitz, but Serbia denies that this step actually has been taken.

The allies continue to push forward in Flanders and in North

NEW SYSTEM OF LICENSE

Council Gives Revision Ordinance Its First Passage Friday Night.

MANY CHANGES WERE MADE.

Radical Increases In Some Instances And New Licenses Imposed.

The Council met Friday night with a quorum present, Councilman Gee being in his seat for the first time in two months.

Aside from the routine work of receiving reports and allowing claims for the month, the only business of importance taken up was the passage of a general license ordinance revising licenses and adding many new ones. It is to be a revenue-producing ordinance, modeled after similar license systems in Paducah, Owensboro and Henderson. It imposes a license of \$100 on picture shows, \$50 on loose floor warehouses, \$25 on photographers, \$25 on cigarette dealers, \$25 on soda fountains, \$10 on each automobile, \$3 to \$5 on each wagon owned in the city and increases beer license to \$250. There are many other changes in the present list of licenses, but a good many are left as at present and a few are reduced.

A motion to refuse to license any saloons on Main street was lost by a vote of 5 to 2.

The council adjourned to meet again last night.

W. A. WILGUS PLAYGROUNDS

School Board Takes Action In The Matter of Bequest.

The Public School Board met yesterday afternoon and appointed the commission provided for in the W. A. Wilgus will to carry out the terms of the will in providing playgrounds for the white school children. The commission is made up of:

Ira L. Smith,
Wm. A. Long,
Thos. L. Metcalf.

They will, under advice of attorneys, ask County Judge Knight today appoint Mr. Geo. C. Long as Administrator to wind up the estate.

Broken Matches.

Miss Reva Copeland, aged 17, committed suicide at Wingo, Ky., by drinking a solution made of match heads broken off and dissolved in water. She lingered several days. A falling out with her sweetheart, Owen Cunningham, aged 19, it is said, was the cause. At least the method was appropriate.

France, but the Germans explain they are giving ground for tactical and strategic reasons. The advance, as far as Flanders is concerned, seems to have been checked on the outskirts of Langemarck.

There has been a renewal of hard fighting in the Argonne district, where the French claim progress. On the whole, however, in these siege operations successes and reverses only mean a gain or loss of a few hundred yards and a slight readjustment of positions.

Seemingly more important is the unofficial statement that the French have seriously interfered with the German communications between Metz and the Woivre district in France, for here, as elsewhere, command of the roads is of the greatest importance.

It was announced officially tonight that during his visit to France King George conferred the order of merit on Field Marshal Sir John French and also pinned the victoria cross on the first Indian soldier to win that decoration.

NO LICENSE ON TOBACCO

The Sentiment of Business Men In Mass Meeting Assembled.

PROTEST TO CITY COUNCIL.

Committee Named To Ask That Tobacco Market Be Kept Free of Taxation.

A meeting of business men was held at the rooms of the H. B. M. A. yesterday morning at 9:30 to take action in regard to the imposition of licenses taxes on the tobacco business of the city in the proposed new ordinance that has passed its first reading before the Council.

The ordinance proposed a license of \$50 on loose floors, \$25 on brokers, \$25 on warehouses and 25 cents a hoghead on the purchase of tobacco above 200 hogheads by rehandling houses. It is estimated that the latter license would apply to 20,000 hogheads bought for the export trade, making a license tax of \$5,000. The meeting was organized by the election of J. T. Wall as chairman and C. H. Bleich secretary and the discussion, which was participated in by R. E. Cooper, J. T. Wall, Dr. P. E. West, John H. Bell, C. R. Clark, E. M. Flack, Geo. E. Gary, E. B. Bassett and others was all in the direction of unalterable opposition to any sort of tax being laid upon the tobacco industry, to which Hopkinsville owes its prosperity.

Col. E. B. Bassett, John H. Bell and C. R. Clark made particularly strong speeches, urging that the world be notified that Hopkinsville was to remain always an open tobacco market, free in every sense of the word. Col. Bassett called attention to the fact that it was the seventh anniversary of the date upon which two of the warehouses were reduced to ashes from without and said it "was incomprehensible that all of them were to be subjected to an attack from within that would utterly destroy them as a free market, and put the industry at the mercy of other markets that would be quick to profit by the mistake." A formal resolution was drawn and a committee appointed to place it before the council last night. The committee was composed of J. T. Wall, Geo. E. Gary, W. T. Tandy, C. R. Clark, E. B. Bassett, John H. Bell and Sam Frankel.

The tobacco men expressed their willingness to pay a privilege tax themselves, but the resolution as drawn and adopted by a rising vote asked that no license of any kind be imposed on the tobacco industry of Hopkinsville.

Moved to City.

Mrs. Edgar Bradshaw and son, George, on yesterday moved from near Masonville to this city, where they will reside. They will occupy the dwelling on Ninth street, recently vacated by Mr. John C. Thurmond.

VIRGIL PEPPER SHOT TWICE

Charges Owen Marshall With Attempt On His Life.

Virgil Pepper, col., was shot twice and seriously wounded Saturday night. He charges that Owen Marshall did the shooting. One ball entered Pepper's breast and the other the abdomen. An operation was performed and it was found that the wounded man's intestines had not been perforated. It is said that the men had trouble in a restaurant and when they met in an alley on Seventh Street, between Main and Virginia, the shooting occurred. Marshall has not been arrested.

Hon. Lavega Clements, of Owensboro, delivered the Elks Memorial address in Clarksville Sunday.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Of The Elks Lodge Held At The Tabernacle Sunday Afternoon.

HON. R. C. P. THOMAS ORATOR

Eloquent Eulogy Pronounced and Delightful Musical Program Carried Out.

THE DEAD.

Dr. A. E. Bentley Claude B. Smith
J. Guy Duncan T. E. Parsons
C. A. Thompson H. G. Wood
H. M. Dalton Gus Tandy
W. L. Bamberger Ross E. Elgin
R. E. Howell W. B. Brewer
Frank Bell L. R. Garnett
Wm. F. Grau R. H. Baker
A. H. Anderson Edw. B. Long
Frank A. Sullivan H. P. Thomas
W. P. Winfree, Jr. W. B. Croft

1914

Jas. W. Ridgeway
Henry Blumenstiel
Robt. C. Payne
Wm. A. Wilgus
Thos. W. Long

The memorial services of Hopkinsville Lodge No. 545, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, held at the Union Tabernacle Sunday afternoon, were largely attended and carried out with a delightful program of music and oratory.

About 100 members of the lodge met at the Elks Home at 2:30 and marched in a body to the Tabernacle, where a crowd that almost filled the big building had assembled.

After an opening number by the orchestra, the officers assumed their respective stations and the opening ceremonies were gone through with, gracefully conducted by Exalted Ruler H. W. Linton, who delivered a brief introductory address.

Messrs. Keen Waller, Robt. Waller, Trice Waller and Joe Day rendered a vocal quartette. This was followed by Miss Parler, of Bethel Female College, who beautifully sang a solo. The invocation was pronounced by Chaplain Geo. C. Abbott. After another piece by the orchestra and a piano duet by Mrs. Shrode and Mr. Gooch, the orator of the occasion, Hon. R. C. P. Thomas, of Bowling Green, was introduced by Judge J. T. Hanbery and delivered the memorial address.

Mr. Thomas is a gifted young attorney, a brother to Hon. W. Thomas, who delivered the memorial address in 1908. He is fluent and eloquent speaker and his address was one that fitted the occasion, earnest, sympathetic and patriotic. He paid a glowing tribute to the order and the great work of benevolence and brotherly love in which its membership of 500,000 is engaged.

The services concluded with music by the orchestra and the doxology as a closing ode, in which the large audience joined.

OLSEN BEAT MARTENSEN

Heavy Danish Wrestler Outclassed By His Smaller Antagonist.

In the wrestling match Friday night, Young Olsen defeated his antagonist Paul Martensen, at Holland's Opera House, in two straight falls. The winner was outweighed, but what he lacked in weight he made up in skill and action, and the victory was an easy one. It was announced that Olsen will wrestle Carl Busch, the German wrestler, at the Opera House on Friday night, December 18. Busch is a hard man to down, having out a standing challenge to wrestle any living man weighing under 185 pounds.

TOBACCO MARKET SALES TODAY

The First Loose Floor Sales of The Season, With Large Offerings.

SIX HOUSES TO SELL TOBACCO

Week of Good Tobacco Has Insured An Auspicious Opening.

As heretofore announced the six loose floor tobacco warehouses of Hopkinsville will have the opening sales of the season today, and the prospects are that at least half a million pounds will be offered. The weather conditions last week were favorable for preparing the weed for market and all of the loose floors have good supplies on hand to sell. The usual strong array of buyers are expected to be on the market and prices are not expected to differ materially from those of last year on corresponding grades. It is not believed that the fine leaf crops will be offered on the first day and high prices are not to be looked for until the market is fully under way. Great public interest attaches to this first sale and a big crowd of country people will be in town.

CHAMBERS CO. LOSES BY FIRE

Clarksville House Narrowly Escapes Destruction and Loss Is Heavy.

Clarksville, Tenn., Dec. 6.—One of the most spectacular fires in the history of Clarksville occurred here at an early hour Thursday evening when the large storage warehouse of the W. A. Chambers Wholesale Grocery company was gutted by flames. About 6:30 o'clock the fire was discovered by J. A. Middleswartz, who promptly turned the alarm in to the fire department.

A large shipment of fireworks that had only been received that day kept up an incessant din of popping and cracking, with now and then the red and green lights of Roman candles to vary the most costly exhibition of fireworks ever seen in this city. For nearly three hours hundreds of people stood in a drenching rain and watched the progress of the fire.

When seen by a reporter, Mr. Chambers stated that he was not prepared to give out a statement as to how the fire originated or the extent of the loss sustained. There have been several theories advanced as to how the fire started. One is that a spark got among the fireworks and started the trouble. The loss amounts to thousands of dollars. There were large shipments of flour, feedstuffs, fireworks, coconuts, lime, etc., in the building.

Changes of Location.

Already changes for the new year are being announced. The removal of the postoffice has caused two or three shifts. Sable Bros. moved from the northwest corner of Ninth and Virginia into the old postoffice stand. Keach & Fears will take the room they vacated and Roy George will take the present Keach & Fears stand. The Cafe room in the Metcalfe building on Ninth street will be occupied by the Blades-Cary Co., who have outgrown their present stand.

White Wild Geese.

Mr. Wm. Cloud, of South Clinton, is authority for the statement that a flock of 40 or 50 wild geese, seen on his farm last week, contained 8 or 10 entirely white ones, flying with the grey ones. They were the first white wild geese ever seen in this locality.